

The SANA President, Archie Ferguson (AF) presided as Chairman.

- a. **Roll call and apologies:** AF confirmed that there were 29 attendees who were individual members and 8 Club delegates representing 7 Clubs

16 Apologies were noted including 2 from the floor.

Jim Mathew and Jim Twaddle were appointed as tellers.

- b. **President's Welcome and Introduction to the Board:** Archie Ferguson welcomed everybody and introduced the current Board members and committee representatives;

Dione Roberts, Director (Ladies Committee); Jim Twaddle, Chairman of the NMFC; R Craig Campbell, Chairman of the MFC; John Hood, Director (SDFFA and SGAIC Board member); Jim Mathew, Director Coaching, Arthur Wilkie, Director SANA Youths and Andrew McIntosh, Company Secretary and Administrator.

- c. **Minute of Previous AGM:**

The minutes were approved by George Mooney and seconded by David Ogg

- d. **President's Report:**

Archie started by saying it had been a privilege and a pleasure to serve as President over the last two years. He said he had learnt a lot about what we feel about this organisation but more importantly how we are perceived by the world outside SANA. Whilst a lot see us as a force for good there is a lot of ambivalence and about what we do and why we exist. Archie believed this leads to a general consensus that being a member of SANA doesn't bring much in the way of benefit to the ordinary angler and that is undoubtedly reflected in our current membership numbers. Those of us who work tirelessly to resolve issues and hold together committees can tell a different story. Archie thanked all those willing volunteers or their efforts and contribution in a difficult year.

A year which saw the issue of rod licences put to bed for now, Angling Scotland launched and the continued expansion of our youth and schools programme. We have been working towards a tentative foray in the digital world and hope to be able to offer on-line subscriptions and renewals in the near future.

We also had the launch of our Elite pathways programme which Donald Forbes is looking after. This is for anglers of all abilities.

He knew how all this work benefits anglers but do anglers outside this organisation know?

So, Archie's theme for the year was "let us shout our message from the rooftops and tell the ordinary angler what our existence means to them and why being a member of this organisation is important to the ordinary angler. Let's take every opportunity to put our detractors in their place and don't be afraid to use your achievements and your hard work to demonstrate what we do. I would urge you all to be proud of what you do and of your organisation."

Archie said he believed SANA is the best placed organisation to deliver change for ordinary angler. Archie then wished all members all the best for the season.

After the committee reports Archie came back to explain a bit more about Angling Scotland and the current situation with funding and Sportscotland

Angling Scotland Ltd has been launched. This is an administrative body that acts as a single point of contact for Sportscotland for the Sport of Angling

The individual governing bodies will retain their current status for their own disciplines.

This will be a difficult year for SANA and Angling Scotland as funding has already been cut by 30%. We are waiting to hear what the outcome of this year's funding review will be.

We have submitted a proposal and are waiting to hear although we do not expect it to be good news. Our next meeting is early March, after SportsScotland have met with Scottish Government to find out what funds they will have to start with.

However, we are pressing ahead. We are developing a new website, an on-line membership system that supports all three governing bodies (you will be a member of the individual governing body, not Angling Scotland).

Archie circulated a copy of the Angling Scotland Ltd draft business plan.

Archie would like to see some positive publicity for SANA this year and recognition for SANA this year. It starts at the Scottish Fly Fair in Stirling on the 10th & 11th March. SANA will have a stand and will be having a membership drive and letting people know about SANA.

Archie wants to tell individual anglers in this country just what SANA does on their behalf and what it has to offer. He believes SANA are one of the most progressive organisations in angling. We are just not very good at putting it across.

Archie believes there are a lot of good things in the pipeline, but he recognises that the coming year will be tough.

Neil Sinclair asked if we were any clearer on the administrator's position regarding ASL. Archie confirmed that Andrew would be TUPE'd across to ASL but still be looking after SANA membership etc.

One of Archie's thoughts was to try and get people involved in projects as opposed to asking them to do specific functions. It is not the commitment it is the pulling away and that puts people off.

Ronnie Picken asked if SportsScotland were trying to distance themselves from angling. Archie thought not and that they still supported angling. He thought they were trying to manage expectations.

Some members felt that SportsScotland were only interested in Elite sports.

Alan Ayre told the meeting that whilst recently fishing for grayling on the Tay he'd noticed a considerable beaver damage to bankside trees with a number of small branches lying in the water making fishing difficult. The animals are spreading so we may get similar complaints in the future.

He said in past years we have asked for feedback on Beavers and also Cormorants to try and gauge the extent of the problems to allow us to take action. We received little feedback from members and without a response it was hard to address the issues.

Craig Campbell added that Cormorants may come onto general licence in England. Alan suggested that members record their sightings on the Angling Trusts Cormorant Watch website as this year the survey includes Scotland. Alan felt it would provide more evidence to give to the Scottish Government

Alan was also concerned that the fly life had been very poor on the waters he fished, and it appears to be the same on other waters. He again said SANA can only act if members come to us with issues like this and perhaps we should be asking clubs and individuals to get in touch.

e. **Annual Reports (on the webpage):**

a. **Non-Migratory Fish Committee (Jim Twaddle):**

Jim opened his report noting the passing of Willie Miller and David Paterson during the year. Both played a huge part in the NMFC and they will be sadly missed.

Jim also advised the meeting he had just been told of the death of Gus Shepherd, who managed the Loch Style teams on six occasions during 2015 to 2017.

The NMFC is now down to 6 members so a heartfelt plea to anyone that could attend 5 meetings per year please come and join them. Contact Andrew at the office.

The Wild Fisheries Reform appears to have taken a back seat, but it has not gone away and with the help of the Migratory Fish Committee the NMFC continues to keep Marine Scotland apprised of other species issues.

While the plight of our salmon is taking centre stage at the moment the NMFC have to ensure that the non-migratory fish don't get pushed into the background.

The NMFC are still waiting for the first meeting of the Protection Order Committee with Marine Science Scotland (MSS). That will be an important event when it gets going

b. Migratory Fish Committee (Craig Campbell):

As Jim said the Wild Fisheries Reform has not been abandoned but merely refocussed on fewer subjects with no new income for Fisheries management being levied on anglers

Amongst other things to be addressed is the revitalised Protection Order system but Marine Scotland are exhibiting no sense of urgency on this or the other subjects still on the table as there is no legislation, merely just a general intention. On the Protection Orders a working group has to be set up and the NMFC will be involved in that.

Current topics being handled are (these will appear in full in the Handbook);

Crown Estate Devolution in Scotland is the transfer of Crown assets as a new body. It's a devolved subject, under the responsibility of Scottish Ministers. There is a draft bill on how the management of assets will proceed in future.

Craig advised that in the course of going towards the draft bill we were consulted and basically, we got what we asked for, but we have to respond to the draft bill itself to make sure that we underline and get what we asked for, and counteract the possibility that self-interests will be bidding to get control of these assets – these are about;

The non-migratory fishery rights, including those which are attached to the land but not yet identified separately in the annual report and accounts of Crown Estate Scotland, but we have asked that they be included.

The migratory fish rights of which about half are let to angling clubs

The need to keep netting rights off the market that are not being currently worked, for obvious conservation reasons.

The Crown Estates Scotland as the monopoly landlord for all the finfish aquaculture around the shores of Scotland. More on that could read on the website and as from tomorrow the SANA draft response will be on the website.

The other current subject is an inquiry on Aquaculture by the Rural Affairs and Connectivity Committee of the Scottish Parliament.

We have drafted a response to this inquiry which refers to our previous position – basically the industry has done great harm to wild fisheries but in our view is capable of being reformed.

The moratorium on expansion of the industry in Norway shows that it must be reformed because this is at the hand of the industry itself and not the Norwegian Government. The industry itself knows it has to clean up its act that means closed containment. It has been referred to many times over many years, but it now looks a real possibility. (There is reference to this on the draft response which will go on the website tomorrow).

Finally, some good news. For many years, SANA mainly through the offices of NASCO and our participation in the meetings of that body, has lobbied against the North East of England Drift net fisheries and the associated T&J nets which take huge numbers of both Sea Trout and Salmon of Scottish origin. It is now proposed by the Department of the Environment in England that the drift net

fisheries stop this year (that is before June when they are due to open) and the T&J nets stop next year.

c. Ladies (Dione Roberts):

The Ladies have been concentrating in bring more Ladies into angling They held a development weekend (now in its 4th year) open to any Lady angler. It offered them the opportunity to learn to cast, tie knots, fly tying etc.

The Ladies have 3 level UKCC 2 coaches in different parts of the country who are more than willing to help buddy someone and give them help and advice. So, if you know any aspiring Lady anglers and those who already fish but want to learn more please encourage them to get in touch.

The Ladies had two 'stalls' this year, one at the Teith opening and the other at The Scone Game fair. Both were very successful with the amount of interest shown and the footfall. It is however very hard to quantify exactly how many have been interested or have gone fishing as a result.

The Ladies International was held in Ireland, Scotland came 3rd in very challenging circumstances.

The Ladies National Champion is Helen Philp.

The International this year is in Wales.

d. Competition Committee (Archie Ferguson)

The Scottish National Fly Fishing League (SNFFL) has two full leagues this year for the first time ever. This is testament to the hard work of Competitions Committee

To supplement that, Donald Forbes and Jim Kyle have been running an Elite Pathways program which involves coaching development days geared towards improving skills and technique. Progress is good, and it may be possible to start a third league for development

It had been recognised within SNFFL that there was a danger they were stagnating, and new blood was required.

A plan is being worked on to take anglers from Grassroots to Elite Angling, or any point in between. This is a long-term plan and is in the very early stages.

We are looking at a roadmap for progress and trying to identify the skillsets within SANA what we would need to support it.

The steering committee will be led by Donald Forbes, with Ken Oliver, Jim Kyle and Alisdair Mair.

The Coaching Committee have agreed to develop coaching pathways in line with the programme.

It is a long-term plan and it might be a 5 or even 10-year plan. It is all about getting the right people involved.

The Stillwater competition is going well with good turnouts promised.

Venues and heats are all agreed for coming year. The new Competition Chair is Neil Sinclair, but Archie will continue to represent them at the Board meetings.

Neil Sinclair asked the meeting to acknowledge that as far as SNFFL is concerned David Deane has been the driving force.

Neil also noted that the SNFFL provides teams for the Worlds, Europeans and the 5 Nations. This year we do not have a World team due to the absence of a major sponsor

e. SDFFA and SGAIC (John Hood)

SDFFA – they have reduced their membership as a lot of members were not active. The list now contains 60 active members which is encouraging. The SDFFA team won the Gold medal in Wales last year for the 8th time running which has never been done before.

This year's international will be held at Eyebrook

The SDFFA have been very successful in fundraising and most has already been completed. One last one in March to go at Millhall. This year the SDFFA have a very strong team

SGAIC – 6 Instructors qualified last year (double-handed and 3 single handed). This year we have 8 and seven of them are double handed. Their final assessment is at the end of March

f. Youth report (Arthur Wilkie)

Each year we are asked to give a report on our various departments and each year the reports are much the same, how the training went, the weather, the behaviour of young people within the youth team.

Well the training went well, the weather gave the team enough problems to deal with, and the behaviour of the teenagers is just what we expect.

The Home International in Wales was as expected - hard work, but the team worked hard and in spite of a week of foul weather, leading to a restricted match, the young Scots dug deep to win the gold medal. Sadly, this was hardly mentioned back home, a cheer and a well done would not go amiss.

The two national heats this year could not have been more different. The first heat at the Lake of Menteith went very well with plenty of fish caught. The second heat at Carron Valley Reservoir had to be called off due to bad weather, but since everyone was already there it was decided to carry on with the match at the nearby small water fishery owned by Carron Valley Fishery. Although this was not to everyone's liking, the match went ahead, and we got a result and a new team for next year.

The coaching weekends and training days do cost a lot of money, but we manage to keep the cost down thanks to the generosity of our sponsors namely Forbes of Kingennie our main sponsor, Rob Roy Hotel, Lake of Menteith and Carron Valley Fishery. Donations from various clubs, fisheries and fundraisers go a long way to help keep costs down but it is all worthwhile just to see the faces of our young anglers when they get a result.

Sadly, winning gold medals does not seem to be enough because we still have critics. Positive constructive criticism is welcome, but negative unfounded comments can do a lot of harm to youths, parents and coaches who have given a lot of time, effort and money into making it a success.

A full programme of events has been arranged for next season with a few others still to be added. The Youth team relies on outside donations in many forms - can you help?

Listed below are the names of people and companies we would like to thank if I've missed you I am very sorry, but we know who you are thank you all very much.

g. Coaching Committee (Jim Mathew)

The Coaching Committee have worked hard to deliver a full programme over the past year.

We have over 70 coaches (UKCC level 1 & 2) and are currently working in 12 schools. We have also worked with a number of members clubs as well as other organisations delivering coaching and support. We have attended a number of events/open days to encourage people to try angling. We started a Youth Achievement programme in January which allows the children to get one SQA credit.

The Primary 7 children to get one SQA credit for 15 hours work.

We have also recently started a secondary school taking them through to this time next year. They will get two credits.

Jim said he is very short of coaches in North Lanarkshire and appealed to any clubs that could help out.

Jim asked those clubs that did not have youth sections to consider starting one and he would be more than happy to help support it.

David Ogg noted that at last year's AGM a new Coaching Director was voted in, but it was not Jim – why is this? Archie confirmed that the director voted on last year resigned and Jim stepped in.

f. **Certified Annual Accounts** (Andrew McIntosh – Secretary)

SANA returned a small surplus of £1578 last year.

Since 2014 it has been a condition of the Sportscotland funding for SANA, the Federation of Coarse Anglers and the Federation of Sea Anglers that SANA retains responsibility for the funds including their disbursement to the individual governing bodies and ADBoS. Essentially, SANA would get all the money and transfer the individual grants to the two other governing bodies and ADBoS.

In April this year the grant was for Angling Scotland, not the individual governing bodies. However as Angling Scotland did not have a bank account in place the whole grant was paid to SANA, for us to administer on behalf of Angling Scotland. That is why in the front page of the accounts it shows that on 31st October there was £88,000 in the bank. £65,500 is Angling Scotland's.

This highlights a major funding change going forward. In past years, each governing body was awarded a separate grant to administer in-line with their plans. Going forward the model will be a central grant to Angling Scotland. Each of the governing bodies would have to invoice and account for money they spend against an agreed plan.

That is why there are two grant elements in the accounts. It is further complicated for SANA in that Angling Scotland will use the SANA office. They will pay a share of the office running costs. At present the bills are paid by SANA pending agreement on the split. It is likely a significant proportion of the running costs will be recovered at the Sportscotland year end on 31st March.

There are some elements (phone, franking machine) where the contracts should be revisited. However most of these contracts would have to be multiyear contracts and given the present funding uncertainty going forward I am reluctant to commit SANA/Angling Scotland to any long-term obligations. This will be monitored.

The accounts show an increase in the wage bill. This is not my pay rise. The additional amount is an Angling Scotland payment for 4 months of the Sea Anglers administrator who retired at the end of July and is an Angling Scotland cost.

Although the membership development shows a decrease, this does not include much of the coach development paid directly by both ADBoS and Angling Scotland.

The competition figure includes the purchase of caps and badges for the Scottish Teams. However last year the Ladies decided they wanted to purchase scarves. However, after the design set up there was a minimum order requirement. SANA agreed with the Competition Committee that we would pay for the order (£1000) and the Ladies would pay for the scarves as and when they need them. The stock is held in the SANA office.

The accounts on the website are draft accounts and there is one change. It does not affect the bottom line. There is an item headed Competitions in the income section amounting to £2244. This is not competition related. It is a transferrable donation. One of our more active clubs on the Youth front was able to secure funds from the police (proceeds of crime and old community funds). The police could not pay the club direct and asked if we would accept the money on the club's behalf and transfer it to them. The restated accounts correct this.

SANA has benefitted from the Angling Scotland arrangements in that Sportscotland have paid for some remedial work to the office. A new floor has been laid, the office has been decorated and additional storage provided. The cost for this and other minor improvements came to just over £5,000.

Andrew said I am also the administrator for Angling Scotland and although I am still doing some SANA specific work, Angling Scotland pays my salary. Membership administration is regarded as an Angling Scotland task. The SANA Board meetings, handbook, website updates etc. are done out with Angling Scotland time. Over time it is likely that a number of these tasks will be devolved to the committees.

Andrew confirmed that this was likely to be his last AGM as SANA Secretary. He had intended to retire last year but to provide continuity for Angling Scotland (The SFSA Secretary was also retiring) and SANA he had agreed to stay on until the next funding round was complete – the end of 2018. The Sec advised that he would also be stepping down from Angling Scotland at the same time.

Membership

- SANA had 75 Club members last year (down 3 on last year although we have two who have indicated they will renew this year) This represented about 9500 club members
- SANA had 138 individual members and 46 professional members (Licenced coaches and instructors)
- SANA had 27 Youth members (Individuals and schools clubs)

Proposed by Neil Sinclair, seconded by Jim Mathew

g. Annual Subscriptions:

Proposed by the President to retain the same levels as last year and supported by the Board. These were previously circulated prior to the AGM.

- I.Club subscription at £75 per Club
- II.Individual & Associate Membership Fee at £20 per person
- III.Professional Membership Fee at £20 per person
- IV.Junior Membership Fee (*under 18 years*) Free Membership

Agreed by the floor.

h. Election of Directors for 2018:

Nominations as previously circulated.

Name of Nominee	Position nominated for within SANA
Kathleen Shepherd	Director of the SANA ladies
Donald Forbes	Coaching Director

Kathleen Shepherd was proposed by Jim Twaddle and seconded by Ken Oliver

Donald Forbes was proposed by Jim Mathew and seconded by John Hood

Archie thanked outgoing Directors Dione Roberts and Jim Mathew for all the hard work they had put in. The meeting showed its appreciation.

10. **Election of Members of the Committees to the Board:** (as listed in the handbook)

- (i) Migratory Fish Committee. Craig said the MFC had benefitted greatly from the services of John Pirie as Secretary and Andy Walker vice-chair and by coincidence both are due to stand down They are both proposed to be re-appointed to the committee. The other appointment the MFC is seeking approval for is Jim McKay who will replace retiring Bill Duncan. Appointments last until 2021.
- (ii) The MFC are looking for new blood particularly Ladies and anybody under the age of 60!
- (iii) Non-Migratory Fish Committee: Jim asked that all the existing NMFC continue in post. Alan has been trying for some time to stand down as secretary but hopefully will continue for a short while longer. Jim asked that anyone interested in taking on the role to contact him or the SANA office.
- (iv) Youth Development: Arthur Wilkie (Chairman) advising that they were looking for a secretary, treasurer and supply officer. They have 9 individuals.
- (v) Competitions Committee: Neil Sinclair (Chairman), Donald Forbes, Gillies Breckenridge, David Deane, Archie Ferguson and David Chalmers.
- (vi) SDFFA: No change
- (vii) SGAIC: Will Shaw (Chairman), Stevie Reid (Secretary) Two new members Alisdair Peake and William Peake
- (viii) Ladies Committee: Jane Wright (Chair), Lana Taylor Vice Chair, Kathleen Shepherd (treasurer), Dione Roberts (secretary), Helen Philp, Liz McLellan and Liz Fraser.
- (ix) Coaching: Donald -Chairman, Tom Anderson – Vice Chair (Falkirk), Alisdair Mair, Jim Mathew, Willie McCutcheon (North Lanarkshire), John Hood (ADBoS), Ken Oliver (Youth Coach), Jane Wright (Ladies Team manager and Coach) and Robert Fyfe. They are short of a secretary and Donald asked if anyone was interested to contact him or the SANA office

12. **Election of the Financial Examiner:**

Agreed to Ross McConnell CA, Kinross.

Proposed by Jim Mathew, seconded by Ronnie Picken.

13. Amendments to Articles of Association

That the articles of association of the Company be altered by the deletion of Articles 2.5 and 6.5 and the substitution in their place of the following new Articles 2.5 and 6.5 respectively:

2.5(This change proposes to increase the votes for corporate members (clubs and associations) from 2 to 4 to reflect the fees they pay).

2.5 Voting Rights

Every Member who is an Individual Member or Associate Member shall have one vote at a General Meeting and shall be liable for the guarantee set out in the Memorandum of Association. Corporate Members, represented by duly accredited representatives or by proxy, shall have four votes at General Meetings and shall be liable for the guarantee set out in the Memorandum of Association. Every person present at any General Meeting may only exercise a vote in one capacity and may not represent more than one Corporate Member unless appointed as a proxy. For the avoidance of doubt, Junior and Honorary Members shall have no voting

rights at General Meetings of the Company or otherwise and shall not be liable for the guarantee as set out in the Memorandum of Association. No Member shall vote at any General Meeting or at any separate meeting of any category or section of membership in the Company unless all monies payable by him or the organisation he represents have been settled.

Amendment accepted

6.5 (This change proposes to change the quorum for Board meetings to reflect the increase in Chairs of Committees on the Board).

6.5 Quorum for Board meetings

Two Directors and an office bearer present will constitute a quorum of the Board. If such a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, or if during a meeting a quorum ceases to be present, the meeting shall stand adjourned to a date within the following fourteen days, provided there are no changes to the Agenda, at the same time and place, when the Directors present will constitute a quorum. Each Director has one vote at Board meetings

Amendment accepted by required majority (including proxies).

Following the vote David Ogg expressed concern at only 3 people being required to hold a Board meeting. He would have preferred two Directors and two office bearers.

He recognised that the vote had been taken and passed. The change stands but the Board will review the situation at the next Board meeting and if agreed they will adopt the 2 + 2 on a voluntary basis and will propose a new amendment at the next AGM.

14. **Bye Law Review:**

No changes to the bye laws.

5 **AOB** None

APPENDIX - Attendance

Apologies Recorded: 16

Dr Peter Hastings	Gordon K Moffat	Ellem Fishing Club	The Bennan Angling Club
Alness Angling Club	ICI Angling Club	James McLanaghan	Alisdair Mair
Fraser Renwick	Philip Kerr	John Miller	Dounreay Fly Fishing Assoc.
Fraser Renwick	Castle Douglas & District AC	Portmore Angling Club	French Wight
Willie McCutcheon	Ken Mackie		

Members Present: 25 individual members

Archie Ferguson	Jim Mathew	Alan Ayre	Andrew McIntosh
John Hood	Dione Roberts	Robert C Campbell	Jim Twaddle
John D Pirie	Alan Wright	Neil Sinclair	Donald Forbes
Thomas Anderson	David Ogg	Gilbert T Owen	Ian Campbell
John Campbell	Arthur Wilkie	Kathleen Shepherd	Andrew McAlpine
Ronnie Picken	Dr Andy Walker	Ian Wilson	Ken Oliver
Robert Fyfe			

Clubs & Associates represented: 8

Andrew McAlpine	Forth Area Federation of Anglers	D Manion	Linlithgow Angling Club
Bob Mason	Perth & District Anglers Association	L McFadzean	Linlithgow Angling Club
George Mooney	Lochinch	Ken Oliver	Inverclyde Fly Fishers
John Campbell	Stewarton Angling Club	Jim Twaddle	Caurnie Angling
Alan Wright	The River Clyde Fishery Management Trust		